



State of Wisconsin  
Jessica Doyle, First Lady

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent



\*\*\***NEWS RELEASE**\*\*\*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

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**First Lady Doyle, State Superintendent Burmaster Present  
Governor's School Health Awards**

*Thirty-four schools receive awards*

MADISON—At a ceremony at the Governor's Residence Wednesday, First Lady Jessica Doyle and State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced the 2009 winners of the Governor's School Health Awards.

The awards are given to schools in recognition of their effort to develop programs, policies, and resources that support students' academic achievement and long-term physical health.

"We know that healthier students support healthier communities, which in turn support a healthier Wisconsin," said Doyle. "The schools that are being recognized with a Governor's School Health Award are doing a great job of creating opportunities for everyone in the school to become healthier and more physically fit."

"These awards recognize schools for developing and maintaining quality school health programs, and for involving parents and the community in efforts to improve the long-term health of all their students," said Burmaster. "We encourage all Wisconsin families, teachers, school administrators, students, and community members to join forces to promote student health and academic outcomes."

Governor Jim Doyle and Burmaster created the Governor's School Health Award program to encourage and inspire schools to strengthen their efforts to create a healthy school environment that combats childhood obesity and contributes to increased student achievement and closing the achievement gap. Many schools have been taking steps in various nutrition and physical activity areas to improve the school setting. However, many of those steps were isolated or independent of a school-wide initiative. The Governor's School Health Award program packages key policies and programs to help schools deliver a more coordinated school health program with an emphasis on nutrition and physical activity.

(more)

"We all know children learn healthy habits and lifestyles in many places: in the classroom, in gymnasiums, on playing fields, in the cafeteria, at home, and in the community," said Burmaster.

"Encouraging students' nutritional health and fitness will positively contribute to their overall academic achievement and help our schools close the achievement gaps that persist."

To earn a Governor's School Health Award, the schools assemble a team to review the school's health, nutrition, and physical activity programs and policies, complete and submit the online award application. Applications were reviewed by a panel from the departments of Health Services and Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Partnership for Activity and Nutrition, and the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health.

The 2009 Governor's School Health Award winners are

**Gold Awards**

Altoona High School  
Altoona Middle School  
DeLong Middle School, Eau Claire  
Edison Elementary School, Appleton  
Ferber Elementary School, Appleton  
Highlands Elementary School, Appleton  
Hortonville High School  
James Fenimore Cooper Elementary School, Milwaukee  
Lincoln-Erdman Elementary School, Sheboygan  
Pedersen Elementary School, Altoona  
Richmond Elementary School, Appleton  
Somerset High School

**Silver Awards**

Bay View Middle School, Howard-Suamico  
Hillside Elementary School, New Richmond  
Johnston Elementary School, Appleton  
Kiel High School  
La Farge Schools

Longfellow Elementary School, Clintonville  
New Richmond High School  
New Richmond Middle School  
Osceola Middle School  
Paperjack Elementary School, New Richmond  
Riverside Elementary School, Menomonee Falls  
Royal Oaks Elementary School, Sun Prairie  
Sherman Elementary School, Eau Claire  
Somerset Elementary School  
Somerset Middle School  
Starr Elementary School, New Richmond  
Thoreau Elementary School, Milwaukee  
Tomahawk High School  
Walworth Elementary School  
Waupaca Learning Center  
Zielanis Elementary School, Kiel

**Bronze Award**

Tomahawk Middle School

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**NOTE:** More information about the Governor's School Health Award can be found at <http://www.schoolhealthaward.wi.gov>. This news release is available electronically at [http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2009\\_52.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2009_52.pdf).